

DURHAM CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2006 – 1:00 P.M.
Committee Room – 2nd Floor – City Hall

SUBJECT: HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL PRODUCTION OF THE PLAY
“PERILOUS TIMES” AT THE CAROLINA THEATRE

To discuss the Hillside School Production of the Play “Perilous Times” at the Carolina Theatre.

City Manager Baker noted the issue has been that the Carolina Theatre has upfront costs which need to be paid in advance by the group that is renting the facility. He stated his recommendation is that the rental and production costs that the Carolina Theatre would typically request upfront be billed to Hillside. He stated Hillside could have the production and pay for the costs with the proceeds of the play and if they want to make a request from the City later they could but it is possible they may not need any money if Hillside ends up with a profit. He noted Hillside has noted they will proceed with the production without Council making a decision at this time regarding the use of contingency funds.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden made a motion to suspend the rules and take a vote on this item. Council Member Clement seconded the motion.

Council Member Clement made comments on the number of students from Hillside present at the March 20, 2006 meeting.

Council Member Catotti stated the concern on Monday night was that the Hillside students and the Director were invited and informed; however, Council Members had not been informed on the request. She noted it was a process issue not a content issue. Council Member Catotti stated she would be more inclined to wait and entertain a request in the future if Hillside needs the funding.

Council Member Woodard asked Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden if her motion is to allocate the \$9,900 or to accept the manager’s recommendation.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden stated to accept the manager’s recommendation.

Mayor Bell stated the issue came before the Council on March 20th and it was stated that some sort of action would be taken by this council and he thought the motion was to approve the manager’s recommendation.

City Manager Baker stated that Hillside was aware of his recommendation.

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Council Member Brown stated he would support the manager's recommendation and expressed concern and disappointment in not knowing about the item in advance of the March 20, 2006 meeting. Mr. Brown made comments on the appropriate process and stated he hoped this will not occur again.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden seconded by Council Member Clement to suspend the rules of the City Council and vote on the City Manager's recommendation concerning the Production Play "Perilous Times" was approved at 1:22 p.m. by the following vote: Ayes: Mayor Bell, Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden and Council Members Brown, Catotti, Clement and Woodard. Noes: None. Absent At Time of Vote: Council Member Stith.

MOTION by Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden seconded by Council Member Woodard to approve the manager's recommendation as follows: that the rental and production costs for the play "Perilous Times" charged by the Carolina Theatre be billed to Hillside High School was approved at 1:22 p.m. by the following vote: Ayes: Mayor Bell, Mayor Pro Tempore Cole-McFadden and Council Members Brown, Catotti, Clement and Woodard. Noes: None. Absent At Time of Vote: Council Member Stith.

The City Manager noted the dates of the play are as follows: April 14th; April 15th and April 16th.

D. Ann Gray, CMC
City Clerk